

Proclamation 5159 of March 8, 1984**Red Cross Month, 1984**

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Since its beginning, the American Red Cross has been in the forefront of efforts to provide for the well-being of the American people. Its volunteers and staff have kept that tradition going during this past year. They brought needed relief to hundreds of thousands of our fellow citizens who suffered in disasters and spent a record-breaking amount for disaster assistance and preparedness. These dedicated people also implemented programs to improve the health of all Americans through life-style changes, kept our Nation's blood supply strong, and provided morale-building services to the men and women in uniform and their families.

The American Red Cross was founded in 1881 on the principle of service to others and has been sustained since then by millions of Americans who freely offer their time and talents for the benefit of their fellow citizens.

The American Red Cross pioneered in disaster relief, public health, assistance to veterans, and in efforts to enhance the spirits of our military services in war and peace. It also initiated the world's largest system for voluntary blood donations. And through Red Cross Youth Services, it helps our Nation's young people to learn the role of leadership and the value of service to others.

These efforts have been made possible by financial contributions from the public. Without this support, there would not be a Red Cross. It is the goodwill of all of us that perpetuates its efforts and provides such an inspiring example of what the private sector is capable of doing.

In the years ahead, there will be many opportunities for new endeavors as our Nation's social conditions change. The American Red Cross, as in the past, will respond to such challenges and will persevere in its efforts on behalf of human life and dignity.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, and Honorary Chairman of the American Red Cross, do hereby designate March 1984 as Red Cross Month and urge all Americans to generously support the work of their local Red Cross chapter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 8th day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighth.

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 5160 of March 15, 1984**World Trade Week, 1984**

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

America can be proud of its record in international trade. From the earliest days of the Republic, the Yankee trader was a familiar figure in all the great cities of the world. Merchants of every nation knew and respected

these traders for the energy and resourcefulness that have always been so characteristic of the American people. By the middle of the nineteenth century, clipper ships from the United States had become the graceful symbols of our national determination to be first and best.

In each decade of our history, we have matched our trading strength with that of the strongest nations in the world. We have opened new markets, created new industries, and pioneered new technologies. In a competitive environment, we have succeeded and flourished. We have built the prosperity of this country on our confidence and on our own strength, ingenuity, and creativity.

Today, the United States is the greatest trading nation on Earth. We are the world's largest economy, its biggest market, and its leading exporter. American brand-names are household words in every market, and everywhere the words "Made in U.S.A." are accepted as an assurance of the highest quality and service.

The strength of our exports has meant a great deal to America. To industry, it has meant profits and added opportunities for growth. To labor, exports have meant jobs—more than five million in 1983. To the American consumer, free and fair trade has meant better products in greater variety and at lower prices.

There is no question that world trade is fiercely competitive nowadays. Few industries are unaffected by the pressure of foreign goods and services, whether competing for sales at home or abroad. This is a continuing challenge for us. Some would have the United States look to protectionist measures for the answer to competition. As we learned in the 1930's, protectionism in one country only provokes retaliation and invites protectionism in others. International tension grows, the flow of trade is diminished, and the world economy contracts.

Free and fair trade benefits all nations. For this reason, the United States is committed to policies promoting unrestricted trade and investment consistent with our security interests. Internationally, we are working with our trading partners for new negotiations in support of freer world trade, greater competition, and more open markets. At home, we have urged American business to challenge foreign competition with aggressive selling, research and development, improved management systems, and innovations. Above all, we must build on the surest foundation for this country's prosperity—our confidence in our own strength and abilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week beginning May 20, 1984, as World Trade Week, and I invite the people of the United States to join in ceremonies affirming the importance of trade to America and recognizing the need for increased export efforts.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 15th day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and eighth.

RONALD REAGAN